



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Mental Health Month

WHEREAS, mental health is the focus of President Obama's New Freedom Commission which declared that mental disorders affect the mental health of people of all backgrounds, in all stages of life and that no one is immune; and

WHEREAS, mental health is the most prevalent health problem in America today, more than cancer, lung and heart disease combined, and the World Health Organization found that mental illnesses ranked first in terms of all illnesses in the United States; and

WHEREAS, mental health disorders affect children; today, one in ten *keiki* has a serious mental health disorder that, if untreated, can lead to physical illness, substance abuse, and even suicide; and

WHEREAS, mental health disorders, such as schizophrenia, depression, and anxiety disorders are real, treatable illnesses, and the U.S. Surgeon General has found that a range of mental health treatments exist for most mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, mental health is critical for our well-being and vitality as well as that of our families and businesses; and


WHEREAS, mental health awareness has been advocated for by the Consumer, Family and Youth Alliance members and their member agencies by observing May as Mental Health Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May, 2012, as

"MENTAL HEALTH MONTH"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the importance of mental health and the importance of early diagnosis and treatment of mental health disorders.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourth day of May, 2012.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i